



STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PUBLIC EDUCATION & TRAINING COMMITTEE

4000 Gateway Centre Boulevard #100 · Pinellas Park, FL 33782

727.570.5151 Ext. 40

<https://www.tbrpc.org/stormwater-management-committee/>

MEETING MINUTES

March 16, 2021

9:30 AM

Online Meeting via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81951873226?pwd=aWFYc2lSUmRpeHdhYnB1dGNsUTZGdz09>

Meeting ID: 819 5187 3226

Passcode: 1234

Call in number: +1 646 558 8656

1. Welcome, Introductions & Public Comment

a. Attendees

- Doris Heitzmann – UF/FFL
- Jonathan Prieto – UF/FFL (Pinellas)
- Sarah Kessler – Clearwater
- Rob Ritch– MacDill Airforce Base
- Michael Perry – City of St. Pete
- Eric Vittoria – Pinellas County
- Stacey Day – Pinellas County
- Kyle Arrison – City of Pinellas Park
- Paula Staples – UF-IFAS Hillsborough
- Ryan Ryczek – Pinellas County
- Kelly Thomas – City of St. Petersburg
- Alexandra Mauer – Pinellas County
- Anamarie Rivera – Pinellas County
- Barbara Dunn – City of Seminole
- Christine Lynch – Pasco County
- Garrison Beck – Hillsborough
- Haley Busch – 1000 Friends of Florida
- Heather Maggio – Tampa
- Joe Whalen – Tampa Bay Estuary Program
- John Iten – FDOT
- John McGee – Plant City
- Melanie Weed – Pinellas County

If you are a person with a disability who needs any accommodation in order to participate in this meeting, you are entitled, at no cost to you, to the provision of certain assistance. Please contact the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council at (727) 570-5151 Ext. 10 within three working days of the meeting.

- Michelle Monteclaro – Pinellas County
- Tim Kelly – Wood
- Tony Sadiku – Fox13
- Urmila Wadnerkar – MOSI
- Dylan Luke – Pinellas Park
- Alex Fugate – Pinellas County
- Lara Milligan – UF/IFAS
- Ali Mauer – Pinellas County
- Rob Burnes – Pinellas County

b. Public comment

- Pinellas Park – call for mural artists

2. Pinellas County Fertilization with Reclaimed Water Website: *Ryan Ryczek, Pinellas County*

- a. Pinellas County’s updated website offers an interactive map displaying nitrogen concentrations in reclaimed water and fertilization recommendations for residents: <https://pinellas-egis.maps.arcgis.com/apps/OnePane/basicviewer/index.html?appid=063e6681420e4910aa056bd5f087b292>
- b. Resource provided by Doris Heitzmann: Maximizing the Use of Reclaimed Water <https://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ss587>
- c. Lara Milligan – Do the areas on the map without color not have access to reclaimed water? How long has the County had this website?
 - Yes, and this was last updated at the end of last year. The site is five years old. Updates happen every other year or so since the amounts do not change much from year to year.
- d. Tim Kelly – Is there a way to relay the square footage of the yard so that homeowners consider bag size of fertilizer? How will homeowners know how much fertilizer to add?
 - It’s important to know the square footage you are starting with to know how much fertilizer to add. It is recommended that you don’t put more 1 pound of nitrate per 1,000 sq. ft at a time, with a max of four per year (Univ. of Florida).
 - A single calculator would be helpful to homeowners. Pinellas County did have one based off a UF article, but it was not ADA compliant.



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- Recommendations are usually made by 1,000 sq. ft. since that is the average yard size.
- Lara Milligan shared these resources:
 - <http://blogs.ifas.ufl.edu/extension/2019/04/15/calculating-fertilizer-easily-a-useful-tool-t-mcintyre-uf-ifas-extension-seminole-county-sanford-fl-32773/>
 - <https://www.seminolecountyfl.gov/departments-services/public-works/watershed-management/fertilizer-ordinance/fertilizer-calculator.stml>
- e. Alana Todd - Has Pinellas done outreach to lawn care companies to inform them of this tool?
 - Yes, Pinellas county has done outreach. Their website has been a part of Green Industries BMP training, and it was a part of the Landscape Maintenance BMP training
- f. Garrison Beck – Hillsborough County has a water bill calculator for people to estimate their water bill based on usage. At the bottom of the page, they have a screen reader mode that meets ADA compliance. This might be useful for the Pinellas fertilizer website.
 - <https://public-solutions.hillsboroughcounty.org/enterprise/f?p=189:1>
- g. John McGee – How is Pinellas County tracking effectiveness of the tool?
 - They are only tracking hits per page at this point, but may expand tracking in the future.
- h. Alana Todd – Do other counties in the Tampa Bay area have a tool similar to this? This could be an interesting partnership/collaboration to build on the existing tool
 - Garrison Beck: Hillsborough County does not have a tool like this. Garrison has the utility information, so this is something he can explore.

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3. Ozona Seawall Enhancement Project: *Stacey Day, Pinellas County*

- a. Pinellas County implemented a living shoreline within the residential community of Ozona in Palm Harbor.
- b. Michael Perry: The city of St. Pete has some living shoreline projects underway, which are in the planning phase. Is there anything related to the permitting that Stacey would have done differently? Are there any tips for other municipalities doing similar projects?
 - Yes, that is why Pinellas hired ESA because they have permitting experience and a coastal engineer on staff. Small projects only require a drawing, but anything past 10 ft waterward of the mean high watermark. Bigger projects should have a formal engineer diagram. It is a good idea to consider wave energy, which will determine the size of shoreline elements (e.g. oyster bags vs dome).
 - Reach out to the Army Corps early in the project to determine project requirements.
- c. Alana Todd: Are there others in the meeting who are working on living shorelines in their jurisdictions?
 - City of St. Pete is; Clearwater: not yet, but we are going to work on a study to determine where some good places would be.
- d. Stacey offered the idea of an “Adopt-a-Shoreline” program for private shoreline owners, which could provide some funding and technical help.
- e. The Tampa Bay Environmental Restoration Fund has been providing funding for living shorelines.
 - Joe Whalen: TBEP has been working on living shoreline projects, especially with regards to the Habitat Master Plan Update goals.
 - John Iten: FDOT is looking at partnering with TBEP for a living shoreline project.

4. MOSI Marine Gang/Marine Explorer Program: *Urmila Wadnerkar, MOSI*

- a. In 2020, the Marine Gang and Marine Explorers programs provided education to 2,254 students and educators at low-income schools



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about the protection and conservation of Tampa Bay's natural environment.

- b. Alana Todd: Does MOSI go to the same schools every year or do they go to new schools?
 - The schools that MOSI has been to before are typically more willing to have them again, and they try not to change grades so that students aren't seeing the same program twice.
 - Housing complexes were new this past year, and it had been several years since they worked with the Girl Scouts. MOSI cycles through their partners every few years.
- c. Once MOSI gets more funding, they would like to supply libraries, shelters, and other places with the board games they are developing.

5. Other Items/Announcements

- a. TBERF proposals due Friday, March 19th to TBEP
- b. Lara Milligan – UF/IFAS received funding for the Adopt-A-Stormdrain program, and Lara would like pointers on information to include in her presentation.
 - John McGee: Stormwater: only clean water down the drain. Please avoid rhymes, they don't test well with audiences. Also storm drain marking itself didn't show much impact in a small scale effectiveness test I did, unless used as a norming tool as part of a larger community ed program. I can talk to you more about that if you're interested.
- c. Lara also provides a Teacher Training program each summer. This year the theme is water: Teacher Training -
https://ufl.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJUodu6sqDouHdEyv60BMNQmZ6-LKA8cuwBY?fbclid=IwAR3c87TQttO7BmAuiFXPqYH06Bo4F_0Dv16R5K03sFTIBSB2V2EYkAPxu8s

- d. Lara: UF/IFAS is offering a virtual youth tree art contest, which will include ITree calculations (how trees impact stormwater):
<https://sites.google.com/view/virtual-tree-art-contest/home>
- e. Stacey Day: Lakes and Ponds Day, May 22nd, 9:00 AM
 - This event happens every year, but this year it will be virtual. They might have a drive through native plant pick up
- f. Heather Maggio: The city of Tampa recently did an educational campaign about blowing leaves into stormdrains:
<https://www.tampa.gov/tss-stormwater/programs/pollution>
- g. Garrison Beck: UF/IFAS is now accepting enrollment for their healthy pond course: <http://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/sarasota/natural-resources/water-resources/healthy-ponds-certification-program/>
- h. Presentation ideas for future meetings? Email alana@tbrpc.org
 - Lara Milligan might be able to provide an update on their Adopt-A-drain program.
 - John Iten is working with their consultant to do an educational campaign about stormwater ponds.

6. Next Meeting: July 20, 2021

Meeting adjourned: 11:00am

Meeting Coordinator: Alana Todd, alana@tbrpc.org